

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract on the title page of the PCT application with the following Abstract. A clean copy of the Abstract identified as page 25 is attached for scanning purposes by the USPTO. No new matter has been added.

An opening-force-maximizing device of an underpressure-activated valve for a drinking container (2). The device includes a partition wall (6, 106, 206) enclosing an outlet opening (4) and being provided with a wall opening (8, 108, 208) in pressure-sealing contact with an axially movable valve sealing member (22, 122, 222) being in position of rest. It also includes a continuous membrane (12, 112, 212) being arranged to the container (2) and about a valve axis (14) through the wall opening (8, 108, 208). The membrane (12, 112, 212) has an axial extent and consists of an attachment end (12a, 112a, 212a) fixedly connected to the partition wall (6, 106, 206), and a movable manoeuvring end (12b, 112b, 212b) placed at an axial distance from the attachment end (12a, 112a, 212a). The manoeuvring end (12b, 112b, 212b) is arranged in a tensile-force-transmitting manner to said sealing member (22, 122, 222). By arranging the membrane (12, 112, 212) with a maximum longitudinal extent when at rest in its inactive position, and by being arranged radially flexible and deflectable and also being arranged in a manner inhibiting axial stretching, a maximum valve opening force is achieved when underpressure-activated.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An opening-force-maximizing device of an underpressure-activated valve for a drinking container (2). The device includes a partition wall (6, 106, 206) enclosing an outlet opening (4) and being provided with a wall opening (8, 108, 208) in pressure-sealing contact with an axially movable valve sealing member (22, 122, 222) being in position of rest. It also includes a continuous membrane (12, 112, 212) being arranged to the container (2) and about a valve axis (14) through the wall opening (8, 108, 208). The membrane (12, 112, 212) has an axial extent and consists of an attachment end (12a, 112a, 212a) fixedly connected to the partition wall (6, 106, 206), and a movable manoeuvring end (12b, 112b, 212b) placed at an axial distance from the attachment end (12a, 112a, 212a). The manoeuvring end (12b, 112b, 212b) is arranged in a tensile-force-transmitting manner to said sealing member (22, 122, 222). By arranging the membrane (12, 112, 212) with a maximum longitudinal extent when at rest in its inactive position, and by being arranged radially flexible and deflectable and also being arranged in a manner inhibiting axial stretching, a maximum valve opening force is achieved when underpressure-activated.